labour. The implementation of the provisions of the Act are reviewed from time to time by the Central Government and State Governments are requested to enforce the provisions of the Act vigorously.

(c) The anti poverty programmes are aimed at ameliorating the social and economic condition of the poor to avoid the possibility of their working under bondage. The State Governments have been requested to start prosecution of the offenders simultaneously with the identification and release of bonded labourers. The Government has also implemented a centrally sponsored scheme for rehabilitation of released bonded labourers.

Grants to Assam for slum development

1180. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had given any grant to the States for slum clearance during 1987-88 and 1988-89; and

(b) if so, the amount of grant given to Assam and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) The present policy of the Government places greater emphasis on environmental improvement of urban slums rather than their massive clearance and reallocation. In this regard the State sector Scheme of Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums aims at provision of basic amenities like drinking water supply, street lighting, community baths and latrines, paving of existing lanes and pathways etc. Funds for the Scheme are provided in the State Annual Plan and State Governments formulate and implement appropriate projects under the scheme in accordance with their needs and priorities.

Loss to N.C.C.F. on disposal of imported chickpeas

1181. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NCCF incurred huge losses on the disposal of imported Chickpeas;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the then Addl. Managing Director-Cum-Chief Consultant in NCCF who enquired into the matter adversely commented on the action of an Asstt. Manager for initiating the proposal for free delivery on 468 Bags of Chickpeas to M/S. Essell International in December, 1984;

(c) whether it is also a fact that pending disciplinary proceedings against him explanation of the concerned Asstt. Manager was called for in July, 1987; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken against the Asstt. Manager concerned, if no action has been taken, what are the specific reasons for his continuation in the employment of NCCF inspite of his involvement in the buildings?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) NCCF have reported that it had suffered a loss of Rs. 10.49 lakhs in the sale of imported chickpeas.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The explanation of the Asstt. Manager was called for by NCCF in July, 1987; but no decision regarding initiation of disciplinary proceedings against him was taken by the then Management.

(d) A recordable warning has been issued to the Asstt. Manager.

New incentives for sugar factories

1182. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FOOD